June 2012

News To Know

2011-12 Loan Volume Reporting Requirement

The 2012 General Appropriations Act (GAA) proviso language requires the reporting of loans disbursed and number of students receiving loan funds by postsecondary institutions receiving Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) administered state scholarships and/or grant funds during the 2011-12 academic year. Postsecondary institutions must report this information to the Department of Education (Department) by **September 1, 2012**, in the format specified by the Department. The Department is then required to report this submitted information to the Florida Legislature.

To assist you in meeting this Legislative reporting requirement, we will continue to utilize the online reporting process developed last year, updated with the detailed loan type information required (e.g., TEACH grant/scholarship loans, all Stafford, Perkins, and Plus loans). A memo specifying these changes and instructions for completing the reporting is forthcoming once reporting is available July 1, 2012.

Should you have any questions or need assistance, you may contact OSFA's Outreach Representatives. The contact information is provided on page 5 of this June 2012, News to Know.

Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF)

Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF)

Stock up early on the NyFF brochures! Our one-page, tri-fold brochures were created to provide busy students the most important information in a quick-read style with a step-by-step format.

Topics available include:

- Career Planning
- Managing Your Budget
- Managing Your Credit
- School and Life Management

To view the full selection of the brochures offered free to you and your students, please visit the NyFF <u>website</u>

State Scholarship & Grant Programs

June

State scholarship and grant applicants notifications of initial and renewal eligibility are viewable on students' financial aid recipient history screens for:

- Rosewood Family Scholarship Fund
- José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant
- Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans

Students check the status of their financial aid programs and correspondence received from OSFA on the website via <u>www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org</u>:

- Select State Grants, Scholarships & Applications
- Select Application Status & Award History

The upcoming deadline for renewal application for all postsecondary institutions to participate in state programs for the next academic year is due June 8th.

June 30 – or 30 days after the last day of classes (whichever comes first) - Grade and Hours Report deadline

June 30 – State of Florida fiscal year ends for state scholarship and grant programs

Important Announcements

Gainful Employment Operations Manual

<u>The Gainful Employment Operations Manual</u> contains information about the 2010 and 2011 gainful employment regulations. It is intended for institutions that participate in the federal student assistance programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA). Within this manual, you will find guidance regarding implementation and compliance with each aspect of the gainful employment regulations.

Program Integrity Questions and Answers (Q&A) Website Update

As described in E-Announcement 2011-09-02, the Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE) maintains a website containing Q&As pertaining to the Program Integrity final regulations that were published on October 29, 2010. OPE recently updated this website with regards to the following topics:

- Retaking Coursework
- Return of Title IV Funds

Please note that the newly added Q&As are identical. Because the guidance relates to both Retaking Coursework and Return of Title IV Funds, we have posted it under both topics.

In order to view these updates, please visit the <u>website</u>, click on the applicable topic, and look for the "New" icon next to the Q&As that have been added.

Important Announcements

OSFA Sponsors Mapping Your Future

OSFA is excited to announce our continued sponsorship of Mapping Your Future. Florida schools <u>will not</u> be required to pay a membership fee. Schools in nonsponsored states <u>will</u> be required to pay a membership fee to access Online Counseling and additional services after July 1.

Mapping Your Future developed the new Membership Program following legislative changes made over the past few years that have impacted the structure of the financial aid industry. The new program accommodates those changes, provides access to new services based on new higher education challenges, and enables organizations to support an important public service through their membership.

Mapping Your Future has created a culture that serves students and families, emphasizes rapid response to industry changes and customer needs, provides information and services that support college access and success, encourages collaboration through the reliance on volunteer support, and enables innovation through technological solutions.

OSFA's Outreach Team Contact information

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The OSFA Philosophy

The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) has the ability to offer its partners and customers something few public agencies can, the ability to shape OSFA programs and services based on their specific needs and concerns. OSFA provides financial aid workshops, publications, better services for participants, and helps fund scholarship and grant programs. If a participant has a problem or suggestion, the OSFA management team listens and makes every effort to implement a solution that meets their needs. Public dollars deserve the kind of accountability OSFA provides in financing education.